Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

ANTHROPOLOGY.

An African Potter at her Work. — I was much interested in one village (Kisunge) by watching a potter at her work. First she pounded enough earth and water for one pot, with a pestle such as they use in beating corn, till it formed a perfectly homogeneous mass. She then put it either on a flat stone or on the bottom of another, and giving it a dab with her fist in the middle to form a hollow, worked it into a shape roughly with her hands, keeping them constantly wet, and then smoothed out the finger-marks with a corncob, and finally polished it over with one or two bits of gourd and a bit of flat wood, the bit of gourd giving it the proper curves, and finally ornamenting it with a sharp-pointed stick. I went to look at it, wondering how it was to be taken off the stone and the bottom shaped, when lo and behold, it had no bottom! I waited to see what would be done, and after it had been drying four or five hours in a shady place it was stiff enough to be handled carefully, and a bottom worked in of another piece of clay. I timed one from beginning to pound the clay till it was put aside to dry, and it took thirty-five minutes; putting in the bottom might take ten more. This pot would hold from two and a half to three gallons. The shapes of many are very graceful, and all are wonderfully truly formed (like the amphora in Villa Diomed at Pompeii); they are used for palm oil. — *Cameron's Diary, Journal of the Royal Geographical Society.*

GEOGRAPHY AND EXPLORATION.

Exploring Expeditions in Greenland. — In the summer of 1875, Mr. Helland, a Norwegian geologist, visited Greenland and made some exact and consequently very important observations on the rate of movement of the interior ice. His measurements were made at the great Jacobshavn glacier and also at the Itifdliarsuk glacier, at the opening of the Tossukuset Fiord, whence the great harvest of icebergs sweeps down the Waigat.

In April, 1876, Mr. Steenstrup, the eminent geologist, and Lieutenant Holm, a young and enterprising officer of the Royal Danish Navy, sailed for Greenland, according to the *Geographical Magazine*, with the intention of penetrating into the interior. The first attempt will probably be made from the Tunnudliarbik Fiord, near Julianehaab, in the hope of being able to reach a mountain-peak which has been observed in the far distance to pierce the surface of the glacier, and is known as the "Jomfruerne" or "Niviarsiæt." But this will only be preliminary, and the gallant explorers intend to renew their attempts for three or four years, until they succeed. The Danish government has granted the necessary funds for this noble enterprise.

Those interested in arctic research will be glad to hear that Dr. Rink's famous work on Greenland is to be translated into English. This is the most authoritative work on that country, Dr. Rink having been for years Director of Greenland. It will be in one volume, and, besides giving a general history of Greenland and its people, will contain an appendix relating to the natural history and meteorology of the country, and will be illustrated by a series of plates (fac-similes of drawings by the Greenland Eskimo, some of which have already found their way into the United States) and a new map.

It appears that the great harvest of white bear-skins is obtained in Greenland from the extreme south, when the bears come on the ice drifted around Cape Farewell in the current from the east coast; that some are taken on the ice round Upernavik in the far north, but that bears are very scarce between Julianehaab and Upernavik. The codfish are mainly taken on the Torske Bank, off Sukkertoppen, and the narwhal horns are entirely from North Greenland.

MICROSCOPY.[1]

MICROSCOPY AT THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION. — The subsection of microscopy of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which has hitherto been a transient organization, temporarily formed whenever necessary, was established as a permanent body at the Buffalo meeting in August last. In addition to business connected with the details of organization, nine papers were read, and many interesting discussions were held. Two evenings were occupied, one by an informal *soirée* at the rooms of the subsection, and the other by a very successful reception tendered by the Buffalo Microscopical Club. The members present were cordially and unanimously in favor of the permanent organization. Dr. R. H. Ward, of Troy, was elected chairman for the first year, ending with the Nashville meeting next August. It is earnestly desired and hoped that the microscopists of the country will take such an active interest in the organization as to secure for themselves and others the really great advantages which it offers.

DOUBLE-STAINED MUSCULAR FIBRES. — Dr. Geo. D. Beatty calls attention to the *Lissotriton punctatus* (the smooth-skin newt) and the *Amphiuma tridactylum* as microscopical treasures, the muscular fibres, especially of the tongue, being particularly beautiful, the transverse striæ being very well marked, and the nuclei very large in both species, and greatly elongated in *Amphiuma*, stretching one third across the field with a one-fifth objective and A ocular. The tissues should be double, stained for the nuclei with carmine and with picric acid to bring out the transverse striæ. The tissue is hardened by ninety-five per cent. alcohol, followed by absolute alcohol, and sections cut in a section machine or fibres teased out carefully with needles. The sections or threads are placed for one minute in twenty-five per cent. alcohol, soaked for five minutes in Dr. J. J. Woodward's borax-carmine solution, soaked about ten minutes in alcohol acidulated with twenty per cent. of hydro-

---

[1] Conducted by DR. R. H. WARD, Troy, N. Y.